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MONTANA DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION NEWSLETTER 406-444-6911

STAN STEPHENS GOVERNOR GARY C. BLAIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

WILLIAM K. GOOD, JR. ADMINISTRATOR

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NOTES FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

Here it is November, 1991 already and Mary is giving me another deadline for the newsletter. If I stop a minute, and think back, I have been with DES a year now. Honestly, this has been the fastest year of my 39 years. We have been through all kinds of disasters--fires, floods, drifting snow, stranded sheep and hazardous material spills. Happily, we have not been involved in one type of disaster, therefore, I will not even mention the word. It has been a very busy year.

The one thing that is most obvious in every activity is the great people that we have, and work with. I have always said that we have the best job in Montana--people, working with people, serving people. With that comes one negative aspect and that is that too many great local DES coordinators have resigned and moved on to other things. I think we should have the next Legislature pass a law making it illegal for local DES coordinators to resign.

I think that I have some pretty good news to pass on to you. First, our State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) has been accepted by FEMA. This is a major accomplishment. My thanks and congratulations to all who worked so hard to accomplish this feat. The plan has been signed off by all State agency directors, or their representatives, and it will go to Governor Stephens shortly. We expect to have it printed and distributed in December. Remember--this is a State plan--it establishes State resources, procedures and coordination. It is not a response plan like those at the local level. It is not perfect and it is always subject to review and modification, as we use and exercise it.

Two people are in new jobs in the State DES office. I hired Larry Akers to fill the DPI position that Gretchen Bingman had. Larry is a doer and a great people person. He is already deeply involved in floods and fires. You will enjoy working with him. Bob Musselman was hired as the Earthquake Hazard Reduction Grand Wizard. He has really kicked the new Earthquake Program off with a bang, passing out grant money, meeting all of the important people and making things happen. It is fun to watch Bob and this program go.

We had our first State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) meeting since I have been with DES. We accomplished nothing more than identifying what our SERC is and what it has to do. We are taking a hard look at what an optimum organization is for the SERC, and we will use local DES coordinators to help us identify membership requirements. Please call me if you have any good suggestions.

We started publishing a monthly Governor's Emergency Management Update. This is a two page executive summary of emergency management happenings in Montana. The purpose of this update is to provide information to the Governor, the Adjutant General, and Dr. Marian Olson. Each of the District Representatives have a copy if you are interested in seeing what is included in this document.

We still have a lot of things to do, and I can not begin to list them all. We are planning the next Governor's Conference for Lewistown in February. We have received many good ideas for this conference, and we always need more. Let us know what we can do to make this the best, most productive, most informative Governor's Conference ever.

State DES is going to participate in the National Exercise in March 17-19, 1992. It is called Transportation '92 and it will be designed to exercise national, state and local transportation systems. We need local jurisdictions to participate so that the State EOC's systems get the best exercise. It is a great opportunity to exercise all EOC systems and receive FEMA credit for participation. More information will be forthcoming. We plan to do a tabletop exercise with DES coordinators in Lewistown.

We are deeply involved in 7992 funding at this time; both State and federal. We have addressed the drastic impacts of proposed State funding reductions and we await the decisions. Our 1992 federal funding is coming in piecemeal and it appears that we will be short in several programs. We will soon be involved in rebudgeting efforts to get the biggest bang for the buck. We will keep you informed when the dust settles.

Before I close I want to say to all of you--from all of us-best wishes in the coming holiday season. We have a lot to be thankful for as we bring 1991 to a close and get ready to ride the fast moving train as we make even more progress in 1992.

-Bill Good

1992 GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE

The Governor's Conference on Disaster Preparedness for Public Officials is scheduled for February 12, 1992 at the Park Inn (formerly the Yogo Inn) in Lewistown. Registration starts on Tuesday, February 11 at 4:00 p.m. and again Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. During registration on Tuesday there will be a No-Host Social, so come early to meet and greet old and new friends.

The Association of Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinators will hold an Association meeting from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 11 at the Park Inn. On Thursday, February 13 and Friday, February 14 (a.m.) the Disaster and Emergency Services Division will hold an Emergency Management Workshop and the Montana Association of Counties will hold their Midwinter meeting.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!!!

Cut-off date for reservations--January 28, 1992.

If calling the Park Inn for reservations, be sure to mention that you are part of the DES--MACo Joint Conference/Convention.
The telephone number for the Park Inn is 538-8721.

Call 444-6911 in Helena, if you need further information regarding these events.

-Gail Dreher

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Contributions of articles and ideas are welcome. Deadlines for submission are January 8--February issue, April 8--May issue, July 8--August issue and October 8--November issue.

The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy. Questions regarding articles may be addressed to the DES Newsletter Editor.

-Mary Arnold

FIRE EMERGENCY DISASTER DECLARED

On Oct 16, 1991, a cold front moved into the state with winds gusting to 70 mph. Fires started by arcing power lines and several prescribed fires were blown across control lines. Some 80 fires were burning at one time. A cooperative effort of fire fighting agencies was put to the test in fighting these fires. On the 16th of October, Governor Stephens declared a state of emergency and activated the Montana National Guard to support the fire suppression activities.

On November 1, Governor Stephens declared Blaine County a disaster area as a result of the damages from the 182,000 acre wildfire in the southern part of the county. The fire caused an estimated \$75,000 damage to bridges and fire fighting equipment. Bill Bishop and Larry Akers of Montana Disaster and Emergency Services have been working with Blaine County commissioners and Marty Dirden, the Blaine County DES coordinator to identify damage eligible for state assistance.

Governor Stephens also sent a letter to Mr. Edward Madigan, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, requesting an Secretarial disaster designation for Blaine County. Agricultural damage from the wildfire was especially heavy. If the secretarial designation is approved, eligible farmers and ranchers may apply for Farmers Home Administration emergency loan assistance.

-Jim Anderson

FLOOD DECLARATION

Edward Madigan, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, informed Governor Stephens on October 8, that Richland and Treasure counties received Secretarial natural disaster declarations for flood losses earlier this year. Areas where farmers and ranchers may qualify for Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) emergency (EM) loan assistance, in addition to Richland and Treasure counties, are 7 named contiguous counties. These counties are: Big Horn, Dawson, McCone, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Wibaux and Yellowstone.

-Jim Anderson

DID YOU KNOW...?

...Disaster and Emergency Services duty officers have received 830 initial calls since May 1986. 192 duty officer calls were taken between January 1 and November 5, 1991.

Did you know...?, of all the calls taken by state DES duty officers since May of 1986:

- 1% were earthquake related.
- 2% were derailments which did not involve hazardous materials:
- 3% involved fire (mostly wild land);
- 3% reported produced water spillage (produced water is used in the oil drilling industry);
- 4% dealt with exercises;
- 12% were "miscellaneous" calls (a truck hauling cauliflower overturns, a boa constrictor gets stuck in a sewer pipe, fugitives and law enforcement personnel have a gun battle, NAWAS lines ring constantly and other uncategorized incidents;
- 13% were weather related; and
- 62% were hazardous material related.

The breakdown of hazardous materials calls, since May 1986, is:

- 56% Flammable Liquids (e.g. diesel fuel, gasoline);
- 22% Gases (e.g. sulfur dioxide, chlorine, anhydrous ammonia, phosgene);
- 6% Explosives (e.g. dynamite, picric acid, military ordnance);
- 5% <u>Corrosives</u> (e.g. sulfuric acid, formic acid);
- 3% <u>Poisons</u> (e.g. sodium cyanide, strychnine)
- 2% Oxidizers and Organic Peroxides (e.g. oxygen, nitric oxide, hydrogen peroxide)
- 1% Radioactive Material
 <1% Flammable Solids
 (e.g. yellow phosphorous, sodium)
- 4% ORM Other Regulated Material (e.g. PCB's, pentachlorophenol)

Statewide the percentages of incident types do not vary much from year to year. These statistics can be helpful for planning, training, exercising and mitigation purposes. Locally, the statistics are not reflective of response needs. The probability of a flammable liquid incident occurring is higher than an incident involving yellow

phosphorous in Montana. However, a yellow phosphorous plant in a community make flammable solids a more likely hazard. Knowing and preparing for the risks can keep your community from becoming one of our statistics.

-Dan Lieberg

The following article was written by Ray Mohney, American Red Cross, Montana Territory office. The American Red Cross is one of the volunteer agencies involved in Montana VOAD.

MONTANA VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER

Montana Disaster and Emergency Services helped to facilitate the organization of a Montana Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster meeting. Representatives of several organizations met in Butte to begin a cooperative effort with the expressed purpose of fostering more effective response to help Montanans in times of disaster.

This purpose will be accomplished through:

 Cooperation (creating a climate for cooperation, information and meeting)

- Coordination (fostering a common understanding and providing a liaison with public offices)
- Communications (publishing and disseminating information)
- Education (increasing mutual awareness and understanding of each organization)
- Convening Mechanisms

 (arranging meetings,
 conferences and training as necessary)
- Legislation (encouraging effective disaster relief legislation and policy).

Organizations which participated in the kick-off meeting were: Civil Air Patrol, Mennonite Disaster Services, Search & Rescue, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, American Radio Relay League, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services.

The group was able to ratify an initial set of bylaws and elect officers for the first year.

Those elected to serve one year terms were: Ray Mohney, president (American Red Cross); Dennis Peterson, vice-president (Salvation Army); and A.F. "Pete" Peters, secretary/treasurer (Amateur Radio Relay League).

Efforts will be made to recruit a broader representation of volunteer organizations. The next meeting is tentatively set to coincide with the Governor's Conference on Disaster Preparedness for Elected Officials.

EARTHQUAKE PROGRAM

FEMA funding for the Montana Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program began on October 1st. The program will fund one full time staff position.

Twelve small project grants were awarded to local jurisdictions in the highest seismic hazard area of the state. These grants are part of a one-time-only supplemental appropriation passed by Congress after the Loma Prieta earthquake.

The following grants have been awarded:

Anaconda/Deer Lodge School District, \$4,050 to develop an earthquake response plan and focus on nonstructural hazard mitigation.

Park County, \$4,208 to develop earthquake preparedness plans for Park County school districts and to update the earthquake section of the Park County emergency operations plan.

Powell County School District, \$2,000 to develop a school earthquake response plan and identify and reduce nonstructural seismic hazards in Powell County schools.

Butte public schools, \$4,050 to develop an earthquake response plan and focus on nonstructural earthquake mitigation.

Project Partners, Montana College of Mineral Sciences & Technology, \$8,992 to provide an earthquake education workshop for 30 teachers and administrators.

Lewis & Clark County, DES, \$3,103 to conduct a nonstructural hazard mitigation and planning workshop for teachers.

Lewis & Clark County, Planning Department, \$10,242 to conduct a seismic and liquefaction risk study for county land use policy development.

Lewis & Clark County, Planning Department, \$5,266 to incorporate geographic information system (GIS) seismic data into a one-stop zoning permit system.

Earthquake Studies Office, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, \$1,832 to prepare and publish a public information pamphlet on earthquake history in Montana, earthquake mitigation actions and sources of earthquake information.

Earthquake Studies Office, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, \$10,000 to develop a seismic hazard map of Lewis & Clark County.

Beaverhead County, \$2,070 to develop an earthquake response plan for school districts and focus on nonstructural earthquake hazard mitigation.

Bozeman public schools, \$4,450 to inventory earthquake hazards in classrooms and offices in Bozeman school district buildings and then mitigate those hazards.

Many of the products of these projects are models that can be used in jurisdictions that need technical assistance. Public awareness activities and assisting school districts in the highest hazard (Zone 3) counties will be the top priorities of the program for the first year.

We have submitted a massive publications request to EMA for earthquake program pamphlets and documents and hope to get these out as soon as they arrive in Helena. Many of the outreach materials stress earthquake/disaster preparedness and should help raise the awareness of the general public about the mission of the Disaster and Emergency Services team throughout the state.

Copies of any newspaper articles or reports of earth-quake program coverage by radio or television stations would be a great help in measuring the impact of the program's outreach efforts.

Please send the information and any questions to Bob Musselman in Helena.

-Bob Musselman

FREEBIES AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

This has been a big month for new FEMA publications. The Family Protection Program has been shipping a new or revised item once a week.

These shipments have given insight as to how many different FEMA mailing lists contain our names. The EMI list, the PPP list, the State list, the director list, the concerned citizen list.... Some documents have arrived for each of the listings. Maybe merging mailing lists isn't such a good idea.

For those who may have missed out on some of the shipments here are the latest offerings.

When Disaster Strikes is a 20 minute video that presents aspects of emergency preparedness at all levels of government. There are some great scenes of emergency operations, including shots of the Pennsylvania state-of-the-

art EOC. The video is a good jumping off place for a local discussion of what emergency managers do and how that relates to other emergency organizations.

There is a new section of the Civil Defense Speakers Kit.
This presentation, entitled Disaster Supplies Kit, includes 65, 35 mm slides and a presentation text to go with the slides.

There are also four updated brochures that can be used with the speakers kit presentation. The first is Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit, L-189/June 1991. This includes a checklist of survival supplies, storage ideas, personal, home and car disaster supplies and personal planning information.

The second brochure, Your Family Disaster Plan, L-191/-September 1991, encourages families to identify hazards in and around their home and neighborhood. It tells how to reduce personal risks in the home, preparedness steps to take before an emergency, supplies to assemble, evacuation routes to identify and how to maintain a family emergency plan.

The third brochure is titled Emergency Food and Water Supplies, FEMA 215. This well organized, plainly written pamphlet provides information that can be used for family preparedness and shelter stocking. It discusses low cost ways to develop an emergency water supply, how to purify water and hidden water sources in the home. This pamphlet also talks about short- and long-term emergency food supplies.

The last of these circulars is *Emergency Preparedness Publications*, L-164/September 1991. It contains ordering information for the previous documents, as well as others in the Family Emergency Preparedness series.

These documents were done as a cooperative effort by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross. Both organizations will be distributing copies at the national, state and local level.

Another new release is Fallout Shelter Upgrading: General Guidance, H-13/-September 1991. This provides simplified drawings and clear, concise information on facility upgrades.

Many of you asked for a copy of the speakers kit when it was first released. Wayne Blanchard, the Family Protection Program manager, said that only one copy may be ordered per person. If you still want a copy let us know. We will send a letter with the name and address of each requesting agency and the kit will be mailed directly to you.

Bill Thomas sent notice of a new monograph (short paper) by Thomas Drabek. *Microcomputers in Emergency Management* was mentioned in the last NCCEM news bulletin. Copies are available for \$10.00 from the Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, Institute of Behavioral Science, #6, Campus Box 482, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0482.

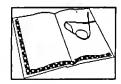
Another book that folks have asked about, is one Joyce Gordy mentioned during Developing Volunteer Resources in Butte. The book is Motivating Volunteers: How the rewards of unpaid work can meet people's needs. The book is available from Yellowfire Press, 369 Montezuma, Suite 177, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501.

The order number is 1201. The book costs \$10.00 and there is a \$3.50 handling charge.

Here are two more items of interest to some, a final report entitled Guidelines for Integrating Helicopter Assets into Emergency Planning and a companion videotape Success by Design...Integrating Helicopters Into Local Emergency Plans. These were developed for the Federal Aviation Administration and are designed for a technical audience.

The last item on this list of latest and greatest FEMA goodies is a 30-second public service announcement. This videotape, Are You Ready?, is designed to encourage public requests for copies of Are You Ready? Your Guide to Disaster Preparedness, H-34. The public service announcement is on 3/4 inch videotape. If you want a copy for your local television station, let us know.

-Mary Arnold



COUNTIES RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS

Six counties received a total of \$ 12,767 for projects eligible under the Direction, Control and Warning (DC&W) program in federal fiscal year 1991. Projects included RACES packet radio systems, high band radios for a direction and control system and repair of an EOC generator.

The counties that received funds were: Flathead, \$125; Jefferson, \$2,995; Ravalli, \$3,675; Richland, \$2,000; Roosevelt, \$2,325; and utte/Silver Bow, \$1,647.

Funds for these projects are 50% federal and 50% local, if you have eligible projects that have local funds already committed, submit a project application for funding assistance through your District Representative. If you are unsure about eligibility or how to make application for funding assistance contact your District Representative or Homer Young in the Helena DES Office.

Although funding for the DC&W program has diminished during recent years, some funding is still

available. This is definitely a case where if you don't ask, you won't receive.

-Homer Young

REPORTABLE QUANTITIES V.S. THRESHOLD PLANNING QUANTITIES

Recently I asked Bob Roy, AARP/EPA, Region 8, for precise written official guidelines as to TPQs (Threshold Planning Quantities) and RQs (Reportable Quantities) on certain petroleum products-gasoline, diesel and hydraulic fluid--since these are substances commonly involved in releases to the environment.

Here are the guidelines I received:

1. SARA, Title III, Section 302 TPQs for all practical purposes (due to the small amounts of tetraethyllead and tetramethyllead) do not exist for gasoline, diesel and other petroleum products with regard to basic planning, therefore petroleum products alone cannot trigger the nine planning provisions of Section 302 for any facility.

- 2. A SARA, Title III,
 Section 304 RQ does exist
 for gasoline due to its
 benzene content and that
 RQ should be considered
 to be 50 gallons, therefore
 any release into the
 environment of fifty or
 more gallons of gasoline
 must be reported to all
 three SARA 304 levels,
 LEPC, SERC (DES
 Division at 444-6911),
 NRC.
- 3. The Clean Water Act guidelines call for reporting any releases of petroleum products into or threatening to get into water, therefore any release into water or threatening water must be reported to LEPC, SERC (DES Division at 444-6911) and NRC.
- 4. SARA, Title III, Section 311 and 312 reporting requirements are tied to MSDSs (Material Safety Data Sheets) and to OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Act/Administration) which does not use a list per se but performance standards. Those petroleum products, such as gasoline, for which a facility must have MSDSs

have a yearly reporting requirement if the inventory level reaches 10,000 pounds during the year. MSDSs and MSDS-related reports must be turned in to LEPC, SERC (Tom Ellerhoff, State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences) and the fire department with jurisdiction over the facility.

I hope these four bits of information clarify some of the confusion surrounding petroleum products and the requirements of SARA, Title III. Feel free to ask me questions, but realize that there is often a time lag before I can get the answers from EPA.

-Fred Cowie

92 TRAINING CALENDARS

Shortly the fiscal year '92
Training Calendars will be arriving throughout Montana.
Copies are being sent to fire departments, sheriff's departments, emergency medical services agencies,
County Commissions, and
DES offices. The calendar includes courses sponsored by Montana DES and by our counterpart state agencies in FEMA Region VIII.
Additional copies can be obtained by contacting

Montana DES (406) 444-6911.

-Chris Christensen

PA IS DPIG-ing ALONG

When you write your own stuff, it may not be as good as the publisher's, but you get to say what you want. A couple interesting things have happened in the Disaster Preparedness Improvement Grant (DPIG) and Public Assistance office. First, Bob Musselman left to become the new earthquake planner. Somehow that seems so unpredictable, but "Good luck, Bob." Second, they hired me. So I went from being the new guy, to being the only guy in 30 days. Actually, I should be quite qualified for this job, as I'm a retired army officer and have been dealing with disasters for 20 years, especially the ones I caused myself. After the army I sold cars for the local Ford dealer for awhile.

When people ask me why I left the dealership for my new state position I usually tell them I was looking for a real job. I don't understand why they always laugh.

Seriously though, I am very happy to be here and to be a part of a team again. The best part of this job is I can really help people. My first assistance visit was the October fire in Blaine County. Of all of the State and federal agencies present, Disaster and Emergency Services was the only one that really had something to offer.

While I am new at the job and it will take me quite a while to meet you all, if I can be of any help please call or stop. I'll leave the light on.

-Larry Akers

EXERCISE DESIGN

The Exercise Design Course was held September 11-13 in Miles City. Forty-six participants showed up to overfill room 106 at the Miles Community College.

Special thanks to the facilitators: Jim Curtin, MHP; Dennis Paulbeck, Sheridan County DES Coordinator; Sheriff Stan Lyson, Williams County, North Dakota and Bob Musselman, Montana DES. What great learning experience for everyone involved!

EXERCISES

The FY91 final exercise data report shows a breakdown of the exercises reported by local jurisdictions.

Type of Exercise	Number
Actual Occurrence	19
Tabletop	66
Functional	43
Full Scale	15
Total	143
Natural Hazards	32
Technological	109
National Security	2
Total	143

-NancyJo Ilminen

TRANSPORTATION '92

The National Security
Exercise, Transportation '92
is designed to test
transportation capabilities at
the state and local level.
Along the way it will also test
communication, law
enforcement, public
works/road and bridge, EOC
and direction and control
capabilities.

Montana is developing a scenario designed to test the systems of our jurisdictions. An exercise packet will be sent to all local DES

coordinators in mid-December. Coordinators will be asked to identify the exercise controller for the jurisdiction. The exercise controllers will provide county scenarios and messages to the Helena DES office in January.

A briefing dry run of Transportation '92 will be held for local coordinators during the Emergency Management Workshop in Lewistown. Everyone will have a chance to revise and update the exercise materials before the exercise is played March 19, 1992.

If you have questions about the exercise, contact your district representative.

-Mary Arnold DISASTER RECOVERY OPERATIONS COURSE

FEMA conducted a pilot of the new Disaster Recovery Operation Course, November 18-22 at the Emergency Management Institute. The Disaster Recovery Operation Course is designed to introduce local and state personnel to basic concepts and operations of a disaster environment. The level of instruction included proper procedures for conducting preliminary damage assessment at the county/community level through the organizational structure of FEMA. One area covered was how to incorporate hazard mitigation measures into disaster recovery and planning.

There will be one more pilot course sometime in the spring and then the National **Emergency Training Center** will develop materials that we at the state level can use to teach our own course. Being new in the program, a goal of mine is to learn as much, as quick as I can, so I can assist county coordinators. Give me your thoughts as to whether you think this is a course you would like to attend. Perhaps we can arrange to send someone else to the next pilot course and help develop a course for Montana.

-Larry Akers

SARA TITLE III -TRAINING FOR INDIAN TRIBES

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency

(FEMA) conducted a meeting November 5, 1991 with representatives from the Fort Belknap Tribe, Fort Peck Tribe, Blackfeet Tribe, and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. The meeting addressed Hazardous Materials training for Indian tribes. Montana was allocated \$20,000 for tribal training. These funds are above those allocated to the SERC.

It is intended that these funds assist tribes in protecting their emergency response personnel and determining how they will interface with the Local Emergency Planning Committees and the State Emergency Response Commission.

-Chris Christensen

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

The National Coordinating Council on Emergency Management (NCCEM) is finalizing the emergency management certification requirements. An extensive report on the program was made at the NCCEM Conference in Kansas City. Certification will include completion of an application (enrollment in the program), completion and submission to NCCEM of emergency management credentials, completion of a qualitative management questionnaire and after five years completion of a comprehensive examination. Three years of emergency management experience will be required of certification applicants.

The most extensive part of the certification process will be the credential development. The credentials packet will include: emergency management and management training, references, documented contributions to the field of emergency management and completion of education requirements.

All of this will not come cheaply. The projected cost for the entire certification program is between \$325 and \$525. This cost includes proposed fees of \$25 for program enrollment, \$200-300 for processing of credentials and \$100-200 for administration of the qualitative questionnaire. The cost of administering the 5-year exam has not been projected yet.

Helen Elliott has been serving on the certification development committee for the past two years. If you have comments or concerns about the process, contact Helen.

-Mary Arnold

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Shirley Schiller, the redheaded bundle of dynamite from Ravalli County, has resigned. It is said she is alive and well and living on the High Line. Tim Read is the new coordinator in Ravalli County.

Larry Akers is the new face in the Montana DES Helena office. Larry was hired as a Disaster Preparedness Improvement Grant (DPI) planner. He will be filling the shoes of Gretchen Bingman, Bob Musselman and Jan Henry. Actually, he is the only one in DPI right now.

Bob Musselman is still here in Helena, but has moved (mentally not physically) into the realm of earthquakes. Elsewhere in this missive you may note some information on the recently created Montana Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program. That's Bob.